

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ACDE-00 ISO-00 ERDE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 NSC-05 NRC-05 /094 W
----- 110643

P R 031600Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4045

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 17937

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM NATO MBFR GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: THE COLLECTIVE REDUCTIONS COMMITMENT

1. RUTH INVITED US TO HIS OFFICE ON OCTOBER 31 TO DISCUSS THE FRG VIEW ON THE NECESSITY FOR INCLUDING LANGUAGE ON THE COLLECTIVE REDUCTIONS COMMITMENT IN THE POSITION PAPER. RUTH BEGAN THE CONVERSATION BY NOTING US RELUCTANCE THUS FAR TO CONSIDER THE INCLUSION OF SUCH LANGUAGE AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, RUTH NOTED THAT PARA 34 OF C-M (73)83 ADDRESSES THE DISTRIBUTION OF ALLIED REDUCTIONS IN PHASE II. THE FRG BELIEVES THAT THE ALLIES MUST CONSIDER THIS PROBLEM NOW RATHER THAN LATER. RUTH SAID THE FRG IS CONVINCED THAT IF THE GERMANS WERE TO AGREE TO NATIONAL REDUCTIONS COMMITMENTS, IT WOULD UNDO WHATEVER THE ALLIES WOULD ACHIEVE UNDER A COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING. THE FRG CONSIDERS A COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING AND A COLLECTIVE REDUCTIONS
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COMMITMENT AS TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN.

2. RUTH CONTINUED THAT THE FRG BELIEVES THERE IS A LOGICAL SEQUENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO CONCEPTS. THE FRG HAS STATED IN BRUSSELS THAT THE WEST DOES NOT HAVE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON THIS MATTER. NEVERTHELESS, THE WEST MUST BE PREPARED TO GIVE A COMPREHENSIVE ANSWER WHEN, AS THE FRG FULLY EXPECTS, THE SOVIETS PRESS FOR INFORMATION ON THIS POINT. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DIALOGUE ON THIS ISSUE, RUTH HAS DRAFTED A "WORKING-LEVEL" TEXT FOR INSERTION IN PARA 3 OF THE POSITION PAPER. THE INSERT COULD BE PLACED AT THE END OF THE US TEXT OR AS ONE TICK OF THE FRG PROPOSED TEXT. THE DRAFT READS AS FOLLOWS:

"PHASE I AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST WILL INCLUDE AGREEMENT ON THE COLLECTIVE CHARACTER OF THE COMMON CEILING. THE ALLIES AGREE THAT THIS OBJECTIVE IMPLIES THE NEED TO REJECT ANY WESTERN INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENTS FOR NON-US ALLIED REDUCTIONS."

3. IN ADDITION, RUTH BELIEVES THAT THE ABOVE TEXT SHOULD BE FOOTNOTED AS FOLLOWS:

"REFERENCE IS MADE TO PARA 34 OF C-M(73)83 WHICH STATES IN THE LAST SENTENCE:

'THE ALLIANCE WOULD WISH TO BE FREE TO DECIDE FOR ITSELF HOW THE WEIGHT OF THE REDUCTION REQUIRED FOR THE SECOND PHASE SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE NATIONAL FORCES INVOLVED.'

"THE ALLIES AGREE THAT CONSEQUENTLY INDIVIDUAL QUOTAS WILL NOT BE PART OF THE NEGOTIATIONS OR OF ANY AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST. SHOULD THE EAST RAISE THIS POINT, THE AD HOC GROUP IS AUTHORIZED TO ANSWER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS POSITION."

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TRSE-00 NSC-05 NRC-05 /094 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4046
INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

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4. RUTH SAID THE FRG DOES NOT INSIST UPON THE NEED FOR THE AHG TO RAISE THIS POINT. IF IT WERE PREFERABLE TO HAVE SEPARATE GUIDANCE TO THE AHG ON A COLLECTIVE REDUCTIONS COMMITMENT, RUTH SAID THIS WOULD BE SATISFACTORY TO THE FRG.

5. IN CONCLUDING HIS ARGUMENTS ABOUT THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE IN THE POSITION PAPER, RUTH SAID THE FRG DOES NOT PERCEIVE THIS AS A PHASE II ISSUE. THIS IS BECAUSE THE WEST WOULD AGREE IN PHASE I TO PARTICIPATE IN REDUCTION COMMITMENTS TO REACH A COMMON CEILING IN PHASE II. RUTH SAID THAT IF THE RUSSIANS SHOULD CONSIDER THIS TO BE STRICTLY A PHASE II PROBLEM, EVERYTHING WOULD BE FINE. HOWEVER, THE SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY RAISED THE POINT ABOUT THE NEED TO DISCUSS THE NATURE OF PHASE II
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REDUCTION COMMITMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, KHLESTOV SUGGESTED LAST JUNE THAT A DISTINCTION BE MADE BETWEEN REDUCTION COMMITMENTS AND THE COMMITMENT TO A COMMON CEILING.

6. RUTH WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING WASHINGTON REACTION TO THE DRAFT TEXT SET FORTH ABOVE.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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